Whereas, it is with great pride and sincere admiration that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives honor treasured residents of the Show-Me State who have experienced the joys and blessings of a prosperous marriage; and

Whereas, fifty-five years ago on March 16, 1953, Kenneth L. Hays took the hand of his beautiful bride, Thelma L. Hughes, as they began their commitment to a lifetime of shared love and devotion by exchanging wedding vows during a solemn ceremony officiated by the Reverend Gilbert Neely at the Baptist Church Parsonage in Collins, Missouri; and

Whereas, in the years since that heavenly day, Kenneth and Thelma Hays have had the pleasure of watching their family grow to include two children and their spouses, Randall and Lydia Hays of Wichita, Kansas, and Curtis and Lori Hays of Quincy, Missouri; and three grandsons, Andrew, Adam, and Kyle; and

Whereas, Kenneth Hays is known as a dedicated family man who generously provided his loved ones with a comfortable home and secure future through his successful endeavors as an automobile technician with Reliable Chevrolet in Springfield, from which he is now retired; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and outstanding homemaker, Thelma Hays further distinguished herself by working as a grocery store clerk at Buzz Market in Collins; and

Whereas, members of Collins Christian Church, Kenneth and Thelma Hays have enjoyed many hobbies and pastimes over the years, a few of which include traveling and square dancing; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Hays, residents of Quincy, commemorated the glorious occasion of their Fifty-fifth Wedding Anniversary on March 16, 2008:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Kenneth and Thelma Hays for their tremendous success in achieving fifty-five years of wedded bliss and in wishing them only the best as they continue their journey walking hand-in-hand along life's path; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hays.

Rod Jetton, Speaker